

Activities of Women Prominent in the Social Life of the Nation's Capital

Society

Who said it was Lent? It is difficult to realize that this is the penitential season, isn't it, when one stops to think of the amount of entertaining going on? There wasn't a day last week but had several—not just one, but several—large dinner parties on its social program, not to mention other gay functions. When you think of all the prominent people who are out of town you wonder who there is left to go to parties, and yet when you see such a brilliant audience as attended the opening performance of the International Art Association's production of Maeterlinck's "A Burgomaster of Belgium" last Monday, you begin to doubt that any members of Washington society are really missing, after all. The same thought ran through my mind at the opening night at the Cafe St. Marks as my eye roamed around the large and distinguished throng dining and dancing gaily there.

By the time you glance over some of the dinner companies in the social columns you are sure that you were dreaming when you heard of all those personages had left Washington. There was the large dinner party which the Japanese Ambassador and Viscountess Ishii gave; The Netherlands Minister and Mme. Cremer were dined (and wine—perhaps) and gave a dinner party themselves. The British Ambassador and Lady Reading gave their first dinner party since their return from England and had as their guests of honor the new Ambassador of this country to France and Mrs. Hugh C. Wallace. Mrs. John L. Henderson had a large and distinguished company dining with her one evening; the Secretary of Agriculture and Mrs. David Houston were dinner hosts. Dr. and Mrs. David Jayne Hill entertained for Mr. and Mrs. William Howard Taft—but why go on, for the list is a long one.

Mrs. Samuel Burleigh Milton sang a number of songs at the dinner Dr. and Mrs. Hill gave, several of them being of her own compositions, and accompanied herself on both the piano and the guitar.

Then Tuesday Mrs. Norman Wil-



Mrs. A. Mitchell Palmer, wife of the new Attorney General, and their daughter, Miss Mary Palmer.



Mrs. Jovett Shouse, wife of the recently appointed Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, and their two little girls.



Mrs. Wallace, wife of Capt. Melville Wallace, and their little daughter, Patricia Wallace, who is the only grandchild of the recently appointed Ambassador to France and Mrs. Wallace.

France. Now 'tis said that Queen Marie, of Rumania, may soon visit us here. Whether the trip will be made before or after the conclusion of the Peace Conference has not been decided. She is now visiting in London, after having been in Paris for some days. She expects to be at Buckingham Palace for about three weeks. Another interesting visitor coming soon is Eleodoro Yanes, former minister of the interior of Chile, who will come here and go to Europe on some special mission.

Gen. Botha, the famous Boer war leader and at present a member of the British mission to the Peace Conference will also come here soon on a special mission.

Rear Admiral Austin M. Knight has come to Washington to spend the next few months and has with him his daughter, Katherine Knight. It is the first time, at least for many years, that Admiral Knight has been stationed at Washington. He was in Annapolis for a number of years which is almost the same as living in Washington, as it is so near.

Katherine Knight is a very attractive young lady and extremely popular with both sexes. She never stays in one place for any length of time as she is constantly visiting friends all over the country; is always in demand for house parties. Admiral and Miss Knight are visiting Gen. and Mrs. Walter Gordon and Miss Ellen Gordon while looking for an apartment. They want a small place so that Katherine won't be tied down too much with housekeeping for she is planning a series of visits in the spring.

Admiral and Miss Knight were on their way to California, where Admiral Knight had been ordered when he read in the paper that his orders had been changed and he was to come to Washington instead. So here he is.

Admiral Knight has another daughter, Mrs. William Lee Pryor, wife of Commander Pryor, of the navy. They were stationed here about five years ago, about the same time as Capt. and Mrs. William Reynolds and they use to run around together lots in those days. The Pryors were very popular then. Mrs. Pryor, like her sister, is very good looking. The Pryors left here to live in Philadelphia, but have been in Norfolk for some months now. There is one brother too, Lieut. Richard Knight, U. S. N.

A deeply interested audience heard Lieut. Andre d'Huller of the French High Commission give a talk last Wednesday evening at the home of Mrs. C. M. Fouke for the "fund to

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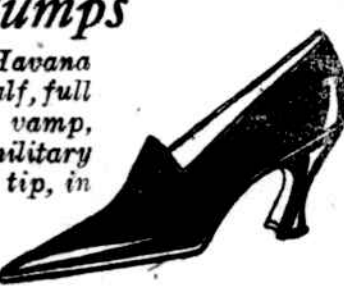
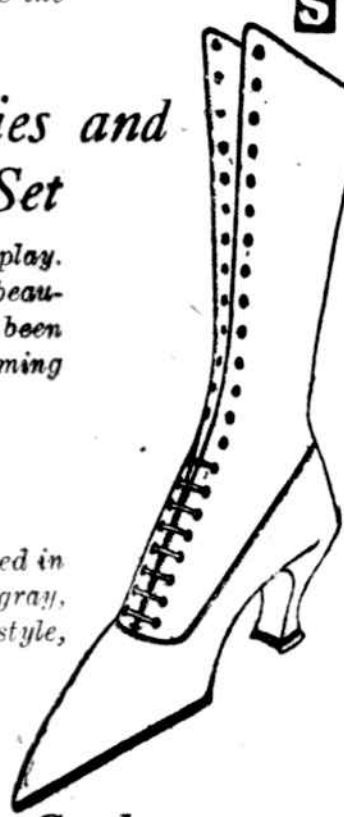
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party. The week closed last night, with a hop at the Engineer Barracks, while the early part of the day was marked by a gay throng gathering at the Chevy Chase Club for the hunt breakfast which the Riding and Hunt Club gave, following the paper chase. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Logan acted as hosts. They will go to New York early this week to make a short stay.

There was the usual quota of dinners at the Chevy Chase Club Wednesday night though a large percentage of the club members dined that evening at the Cafe St. Marks. Those who did dine at the club went into town later for supper and to dance at the Cafe St. Marks. It was altogether a lovely party and quite the liveliest I have seen in Washington since the town went dry. There was something about the beauty of the place and the pep in the music that seemed to make every one have a particularly good time. Also every one seemed to know every one else and there was much visiting among the tables. It was a sort of an amalgamation of the people and the good times to be had at the Chevy Chase Club, the old Army and Navy Club before the war, the Administration Club dances and the Shoreham in its palmiest days. Both rooms, the grill and the Italian garden, were packed and about 400 were turned away. Some people were foolish enough to think

they could stroll in there at the eleventh hour and get a table without making reservations. They might do that other nights but not last Wednesday. Though I had dinner there again on Thursday and the place was well filled then also.

Algernon Grieg, of the British Embassy staff, had a dinner party there Thursday evening and had among his guests, Lieut. and Mrs. Richard Davidson and the sister of the latter, Mrs. Porter. They are all New Yorkers who have been living here temporarily but are about to return home. Joseph Mulvey, secretary to the President, entertained Raymond Baker at dinner there that same evening and Mrs. Luke McNamee had guests dining there with her Thursday, among them being her niece, Miss Marlon Ainsie and Capt. and Mrs. Thomas Frothingham, of Boston, who are making their home here temporarily.

Mrs. McNamee had another party there again Friday evening. Raymaster John Cunningham had guests with him there for dinner Thursday evening as did also Mr. and Mrs. Allan Walker. Mrs. McNamee and her niece had luncheon there the same day.

Mary Graham, Kate McCartney, and Joe Henry also had guests lunching with them at the Cafe St. Marks, Thursday. Mrs. McNamee sent out cards last week for a private exhibition of her drawings of children at her studio in 1805 M street. It opened yesterday with a tea from 3 to 6 o'clock and will end next Thursday.

John Cunningham attended the formal opening of Cafe St. Marks Wednesday evening as a member of the party which Mr. and Mrs. George Thomas Dunlop gave. He only returned to Washington a few days before, after having been abroad since June, 1917. He said he was almost the first Washingtonian to land in France after we entered the war.

Omar Conger, I think, was about the first and John Cunningham was a close second. He was an architect by profession, but entered the navy as a paymaster immediately after we declared war. He was a New Yorker who had been living here for about a year. He is a close friend of John Donn, you will remember, and he tells me that Mr. Donn, who has also been in France for more than a year, will return here shortly.

The fact that there were few men in all that crowd there in uniform, was very striking. More and more men are getting out of the service and into "civies" every day now and soon the uniform will be as rare a sight as it was before April, 1917. John Donn was there in uniform, having recently returned to duty here in Washington. Though he lived around here for several years and is regularly in the navy, I never saw him in uniform until he returned here this time, for of course, in the old days, the officers of our army and navy only wore

their uniforms on state occasions. The result was that you hardly realized which of your friends were in the service until they suddenly blossomed forth into their uniforms after the declaration of war. John Isaman entertained a small company at dinner at the Cafe St. Marks last Friday evening.

The Dunlops had with them their son, McCook Dunlop, quite a youth, who is home from Andover recuperating from a tonsil operation. The Clark Wagmans had their young son, Wolcott Wagman, also a school boy, with them also. The Randall Haggers, Mrs. McMillan Gibson and Fred Ray were other guests of the Wagmans that evening. Mr. Wagman designed the cafe; is quite proud of his handiwork and will be might be; Washington has never had anything of the sort that could even be compared with it. As someone said that evening: "It filled a long-felt need"—a beautiful place to dine, the best music to be had—Meyer Davis' orchestra with Boernstein leading—a good floor and the best of food and service and very reasonable prices. The size of the room is one of its attractions—it isn't too big, and everyone says that sees it, as you sit at a table and look about, you just can't realize that it isn't really the sky overhead. The freshness of the air in the room adds to the effect of the out-of-doors.

The Stuart Pittmans were there as guests of Dr. and Mrs. Yelverton Garrett, as were also the William Payne Merediths. The Pittmans, who have the Charles Frailey house in Chevy Chase, are getting their belongings packed preparatory to returning to their home in Detroit early next month. Mrs. Pittman was a Miss McMillan and is a connection of Mrs. McMillan Gibson. Mrs. H. Wells Rusk, who to us will always be Margaret Britton, was there with her father, who had in his party Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Fuller. It is the first time I have seen Mr. Britton at any place of the sort since his wife's death. Mrs. Walter Bruce Howe looked particularly handsome that evening in a dark green-blue velvet gown cut on simple but very becoming lines.

Mr. and Mrs. Frederick E. Chapin had their son, Fred, just returned from overseas, as were also the William Reynolds were there and it was nice to see them once more. They use to live here about five years ago and took a very active part in society. Then Capt. Reynolds was ordered away and they dropped out of things for a while. His family are living here now and for the time being he is stationed in Annapolis and runs up here whenever he can.

The three society men owning and running the Cafe St. Marks, Joseph



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